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INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 1933
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RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1600
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0419
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 2565
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 0364
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RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 2011
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 0792
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY 0050
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0994

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SIPDIS SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/PSC SASH MEHRA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL KPKO ET SU IT

SUBJECT: ITALY CONSIDERING CONTRIBUTION FOR ETHIOPIAN

UNAMID LOGISTICS UNIT

REF: STATE 39748

(SBU) Poloff delivered reftel points to MFA East Africa Office Director Giuseppe Pastorelli on April 24, requesting Italian support for the logistics unit pledged by Ethiopia to the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID). Pastorelli said our approach was the first he had heard about the March 24 Friends of UNAMID meeting, where this issue was originally raised, per reftel. He said he would query the Italian mission in New York for details. Although he could not immediately offer a response to our request, he said budgetary constraints would limit Italy's ability to respond positively to our request. Pastorelli thought one possible source for a contribution would be the Italian Africa Peace Facility, a mechanism created in 2007 to allow Italy to contribute to peace and security efforts in Africa in coordination with the African Union. Post will follow up with Pastorelli to determine whether support is likely to be forthcoming. DIBBLE